
Acts of Interpretation

This Institute is designed for teachers who seek to deepen their knowledge both of dramatic literature and of the practical arts of the stage: acting and directing. A dramaturg/ scholar will lead all participants in a literary examination of nine classic and contemporary plays; an actor-teacher will work with half the group in an intense study of the craft of acting; and a director will guide the other half in a consideration of the problems a director faces in production.

The three courses will draw upon many of the same texts. They will also make use of the talents of the professional actors in Bread Loaf's resident Acting Ensemble. All three teachers will share the same goal: to use his or her discipline to bring into focus the possibilities inherent in a script and, by making choices, to enter into a dialogue with the text itself.

During the academic year, following the summer of 1992, members of the Acting Ensemble will, as their schedules permit, accept invitations to spend two to four days in a participant's school, assisting in classes and leading workshops.

Preference will be given to teachers from schools that do not have easy access to a professional theater.

In addition to submitting transcripts and letters of reference, applicants will be asked to describe their roles in teaching dramatic literature and/or producing theater in their schools. Their principals must certify that they will support the applicant with a grant of \$200 and will encourage teachers' efforts to involve the Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble in their classes during the school year.

Participants will receive a full-tuition scholarship (\$2,425), room and board on campus (\$1,200) and a stipend of \$250 per week for expenses. Courses may be audited or taken for credit, but all students are expected to participate fully in class activities.

The Courses

All participants will enroll in the first course and select one of the other two for their second course.

THE DRAMATURG'S PERSPECTIVE: QUESTIONING THE TEXT (Mr. Cadden)

We will examine classic plays from five periods of Western theatrical tradition and three works from the contemporary repertoire. We will place each classic text within the social, political, and cultural structures of the community it served and look closely at such elements as architecture, the calendar of city life, and the relationships between the theater and its patrons. We will attempt to discover how modern ways of seeing might help illuminate these texts and move them closer to us. We will use many of the same methods to construct an historical and theoretical model of the contemporary theater, thereby seeing our own texts not only as "this year's hits" but as complex cultural markers.

THE DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE: SHAPING THE TEXT (Mr. MacVey)

Half the sessions of this workshop will be devoted to a study of the problems a director encounters in production: choosing a text, preparing it for rehearsal, developing a design, working with actors, and staging the play. The other sessions will be devoted to presenting and discussing scenes directed by members of the class. Each participant will direct three scenes, the last of which will be presented in the theater for the Bread Loaf community.

THE ACTOR'S PERSPECTIVE: EMBODYING THE TEXT (Ms. MacVey)

Through exercises, improvisations and scene study this course will help participants develop the ability to make personal the inner lives of their characters, and to find imaginative ways to reveal this mystery on stage. We will give special attention to the many ways an individual moment may be interpreted, and the choices that might best serve a playwright's demands. This course is designed for those with limited training in acting.

The Faculty

Michael Cadden, B.A., Yale; B.A. University of Bristol, England; D.F.A. Yale School of Drama. Senior Lecturer in Theater, Princeton University.

Alan Mokler MacVey, B.A., M.A. Stanford; M.F.A. Yale. Associate Professor and Chair of the Theatre Arts Department, University of Iowa; Artistic Director of the Acting Ensemble at Bread Loaf, and Coordinator of the Institute.

Carol Elliott MacVey, B.A. Notre Dame College; M.A. Middlebury College. Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts, University of Iowa; member of the Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble.

For more information and an official application, please write to:

James Maddox, Project Administrator
Bread Loaf School of English
Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont 05753
(802)-388-3711 x. 5418



Every summer the Bread Loaf School of English assembles a community of teachers and learners at each of its three campuses: at the Bread Loaf Mountain campus in Vermont; at Lincoln College, Oxford; and at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Students at each of these campuses follow courses of study leading to the Master of Arts and Master of Letters degrees in English. The Bread Loaf emphasis has always been upon close contact between teacher and student in an intensive six-week course of study.

Since 1920, the central location for these programs of study has been the campus located outside Middlebury, in sight of Bread Loaf Mountain in the Green Mountains of Vermont. Here, faculty members from many of the most distinguished graduate programs in the country offer courses in Literature, Literary Theory, Creative Writing, the Teaching of Writing, and Theater. All of these courses benefit from the on-site presence of a professional Acting Ensemble which visits classrooms and, along with actors drawn from the student body, mounts a major production each summer. Each year approximately 250 students come from all regions of the United States and several foreign countries to study at the Bread Loaf campus.

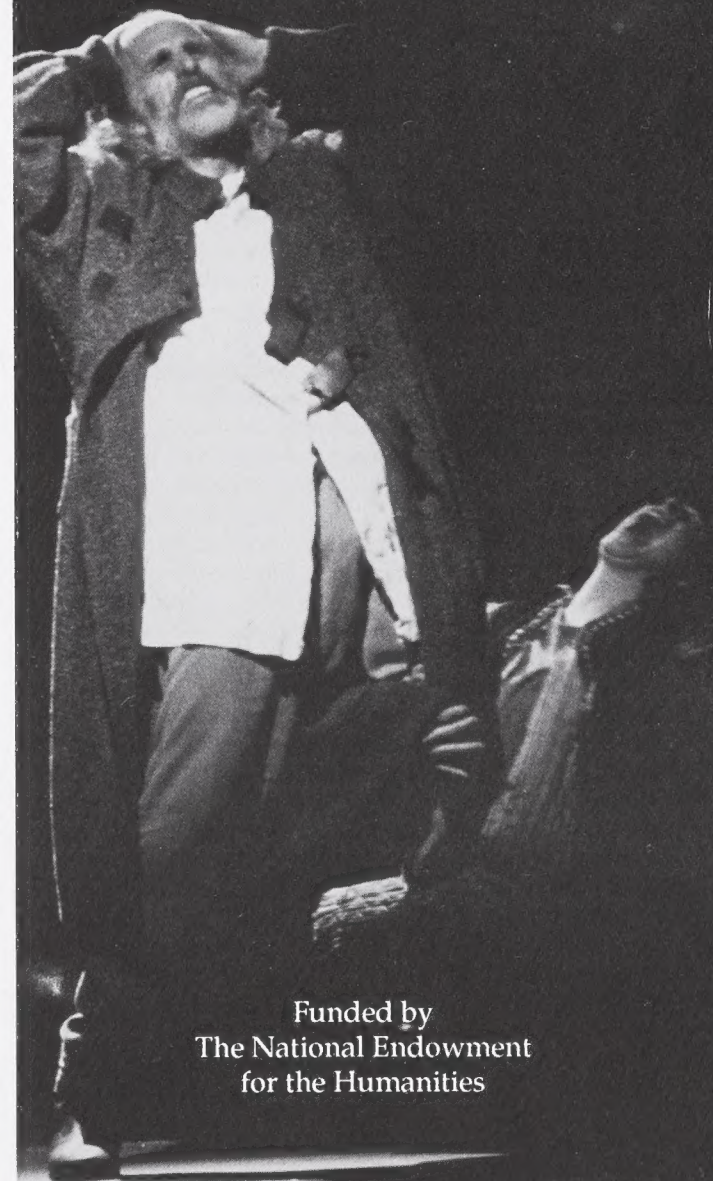
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Middlebury, Vermont 05753

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The Bread Loaf
School of English

**NEH Institute:
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